our fourfooted friends

Animal Rescue League of Boston • Summer 1987

Animal Rescue League of Boston

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Our Fourfooted Friends

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COVER:

The League's newly-renovated barn at the Pine Ridge Animal Center in Dedham (see p. 11).
Photo by Bob Howard

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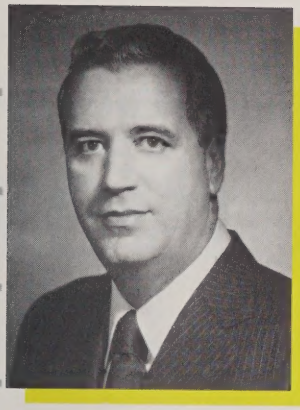


Arthur G. Slade, *President*

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

VERSAILLES AGREEMENT PLEDGES INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST CRUELTY OF FUR TRADE

The continued cruelty in the trapping of various wild animals for the so-called "Fur Trade" has long been of concern due to the suffering and anguish caused to these beautiful animals.

New developments in the battle have occurred at a W.S.P.A. (World Society for the Protection of Animals) meeting in France. The following is a report of this happening from Michael O'Sullivan, W.S.P.A.'s Coordinator in Canada.

"The fabled Palace of Versailles has gone down in history as the meeting place where world leaders assembled to sign the peace treaty which ended the First World War.

"It was fitting then, that Versailles should once more serve as the birthplace of yet another historic accord, which seeks to end a different but equally devastating kind of war—the war waged on wildlife by the international fur trade. Each year this trade inflicts suffering on a global scale to millions of animals for the production of luxury furs.

"On May 29th, 1987, delegates from 17 nations journeyed to Versailles, France under the banner of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA). Representing the most respected and influential animal protection organizations in the world, they met in order to discuss their earlier deliberations which had given rise to the Boston Resolution (1984) and the Luxembourg Resolution (1986).

"The reason for the meeting was crystal clear," explains WSPA Coordinator Michael O'Sullivan: "A number of public awareness campaigns have been carried out to date, with varying degrees of success, but only on a nation by nation basis. The fur trade by its very nature is world wide in scope and the Versailles Agreement provides the framework for a targeted internationally cohesive campaign of consumer and public awareness.

"Operating through legitimate channels, this international campaign will turn the spotlight on the inherent cruelty of the fur trade: We are convinced many people purchased a fur coat without being fully aware of all the facts. The more people that know about the cruelty to animals caused by the manufacture of fur garments, the quicker the demand will fall. Over a period of time we believe production will drop and fewer animals will suffer," O'Sullivan said.

"Wearing fur is a moral issue. We are confident that once people have all the facts before them they will soon put conscience before commerce," he added.

"The international campaign will be coordinated from WSPA's Canadian Section based in Toronto and will focus attention on the primary producing and market countries of the world. The Versailles Agreement is also intended to send a clear signal to the international fur trade that WSPA has resolved to commit its more than 450 member societies in over 60 countries to a public awareness campaign which will continue for many years to come."

ANNUAL MEETING 1987

Members and friends attending the League's 88th annual meeting Thursday, April 30, learned of a new pet placement program that is enriching the lives of nursing home residents, and had an opportunity to pay tribute to special guests who were honored for saving the lives of animals during the past year.

Guest speaker Sherry Mattison, the Junior League of Boston's Pet Companionship Program Advisor, shared a 20-minute video presentation on the Junior League's efforts to encourage long-term care facilities to provide companionship for their residents by adopting pets. Thanks to the volunteers' success in demonstrating the benefits of pet-facilitated therapy to nursing home administrators, approximately fifty pets have been placed through the program, all of which were homeless animals from area shelters, including the Animal Rescue League of Boston. "Feeling that they have actually saved the life of an animal by adopting it gives these elderly patients a tremendous sense of purpose," Ms. Mattison said.

Recapping the highlights of 1986, League president Arthur G. Slade reported that membership has grown to almost 24,000, and pet adoptions have risen by 35%. "All we do, and all we want to do, is made possible by the growing support of people like yourself, and the teamwork of our very dedicated staff," he said. He then presented the League's Certificate of Appreciation to the following individuals:

■ State Troopers Nancy MacDonald and Dennis Brooks for demonstrating "their concern for the humane treatment of animals by

State Troopers MacDonald and Brooks reunite "Buddy" with owner Ron Ilomaki

Photo by Jon Hill, Courtesy of Boston Herald

arresting a man who was about to abandon a stolen dog on a busy highway." They rescued the 18-month-old mongrel named "Buddy" from the midst of rush hour traffic on Route 495, where it had just been dumped by its owner's neighbor who was angry because the dog had gotten into his trash. The dog, who had previously survived a house fire that killed three people, was reunited with his owner and the man responsible was arrested at the scene. The dog was not only very lucky but also very loving, according to Trooper Brooks. "We had to put them both in the same cruiser, and there was the dog licking the face of the guy who tried to kill it, all the way back to the barracks!"

■ Captain George McCray of the Quincy Fire Department "for his singular effort to successfully revive a cat rescued from an apartment building fire." Captain McCray resuscitated the cat by administering oxygen after it was overcome in a smoky two-alarm blaze in a four-story building in Germantown.

■ Officer William A. Schultz of the Beverly Police Department "for his heroic action in rescuing a drowning St. Bernard from a partially frozen pond." Officer Schultz, who was unable to attend the awards ceremony, fell through the ice himself while trying to rescue the 170-pound dog but was eventually able to pull the huge, struggling animal to safety. "I thought St. Bernards were supposed to rescue us," he later joked.

A special Certificate of Appreciation was also presented to Mrs. Henri Prunaret "for her long and distinguished service to the League." Mrs. Prunaret retired from the League's Board of Directors after seventeen years of service. Harold H. Seward was elected to the Board of Directors, filling the vacated post. Five other directors were re-elected: Gage Bailey, Shephard Brown, Hewitt Morgan, Jr., Robert B. Pitcher and Richard V. Rapacz.

Guest speaker Sherry Mattison addresses meeting.

League President Arthur G. Slade and John C. Hatch, Chairman of the Board, present awards to State Troopers Dennis Brooks and Nancy MacDonald (above) and Captain George McCray (below) of the Quincy Fire Department.

Board Chairman John C. Hatch (right) welcomes newly-elected Director, Harold H. Seward.

The Pit Bull Controversy

A DILEMMA FOR HUMANE SOCIETIES

"They are mean, ugly dogs!" "She's adorable—heaven is a spot on the couch with her head on your lap." "They're savage killers—they latch on and don't let go." "There's no dog that has a bigger heart."

These emotional and conflicting statements, all used in the press recently to describe the same type of dog, serve to highlight the diversity of opinion and degree of controversy surrounding the issue of pit bull dogs as pets.

A pit bull attacked and killed a doctor in Ohio this year and another maimed an infant in Georgia. More recently and closer to home, a Dorchester storekeeper rescued two bleeding school children from a pit bull attack, and a larcenous teenager used a pit bull as his "weapon" in a holdup in Boston.

Spurred by a series of such highly publicized and sometimes fatal attacks on humans, several cities and towns have reacted with ordinances to prohibit and restrict the ownership of pit bulls, but most of these laws have been overturned. The problem with legal restrictions is twofold, according to Richard W. Bryant, executive assistant to the president of the League. "First, the laws are discriminatory and the legality of them is questionable. Second, because the term 'pit bull' is used to describe three different breeds of dogs, it is difficult for animal control officers to accurately identify the breeds, particularly mixed breeds, so the laws are hard, if not impossible, to enforce."

The term "pit bull" can mean any one of three breeds of muscular, powerful dogs in the terrier group which were originally bred for sport fighting one another in small, fenced areas, hence the term "pit." The larger dog (about 40-65 lbs.) most commonly identified as a pit bull is properly called an American Pit Bull Terrier or an American Staffordshire Terrier. A somewhat smaller dog, bred in the 1800's in England, is the Staffordshire Bull Terrier. The third dog in the group, the one least often associated with attacks on humans, is the Bull Terrier, which has an elongated or football shaped head (see illustrations).

Despite the fact that dog fighting as a sport is illegal in all 50 states and a felony in 29, including Massachusetts, these dogs are still bred and raised for fighting, but they are also increasingly popular as pets in recent years. The answer to the problem lies in responsible ownership, according to Robert Walsh, manager of the League's Boston shelter. "Those who love the pit bull insist that they are no more likely to attack than any other dog, and that their behavior depends on how they are raised and treated by their owners. Statistical evidence supports the fact that this type of dog is not likely to bite any more

Sketches reprinted courtesy of Community Animal Control.

American Pit Bull Terrier or American Staffordshire Terrier

Staffordshire Bull Terrier

Bull Terrier

frequently than other dogs; its attacks, however, are usually much more severe." Because of their history of fighting, the dogs also maim or kill other animals, such as dogs or cats, more often.

In developing a policy regarding pit bulls, the League is above all aware of the need to strike a balance between its responsibility to protect animals and its responsibility to protect people. "This is a classic example of a breed of dog suffering because of irresponsible actions on the part of humans," Richard Bryant explains. "Not all pit bulls are bad dogs, but in the current atmosphere of fear and hysteria, any dog that bites is likely to be identified as a pit bull. Other types of dogs have been known to be dangerous to people, including German Shephards, Dobermans, and Rotweillers. In our opinion, any ordinance, to be successful, should apply to vicious dogs in general, those with a known history of biting." The League is currently drawing up guidelines for a so-called "vicious dog" ordinance for the City of Boston. "It is equally vital that cities and towns enforce animal control and leash laws that are already on the books," Mr. Bryant stresses.

"Pit bulls that come in to our shelters are very carefully screened for temperament and behavior. Those determined not to be dangerous to humans will be placed for adoption, but not in highly populated urban areas. We screen potential owners just as carefully," Mr. Walsh states.

Pit bulls, as well as other dogs brought to the League, are carefully screened for temperament and behavior.

There are three undesirable, and dangerous, types of owners: those who want to raise the dog for fighting, those who will fail to prevent behavior problems because they are well-meaning but uninformed, and those who simply want to own the meanest dog in town. The names a person assigns to their animals can offer valuable insights. "I've heard of dogs named Caesar, Rock Jaw, and even Hitler—you just know they were not acquired as pets," Mr. Walsh explains.

In summary, the League feels that a pit bull terrier in the hands of the right person—a responsible owner—can be a good pet, but there are certain characteristics that need to be controlled and regulated.

The League offers the following guidelines for owners of these animals:

- Families who own the breed should be well informed on the character and behavior traits, including the fact that the pit bull is a fighter and does not like other animals.
- Pit bulls should not be used as watch dogs since intrusion on family property is likely to provoke an attack.
- The dog should be on a leash at all times when outdoors.
- It is best to keep the dog confined when entertaining visitors.
- Under no circumstances should the dog be raised to fight or attack, or enhance an owner's would-be "macho" image, since the dog's genetic predisposition to fight may pose a serious threat to public safety.

"The challenge facing society in general, and those in the humane field in particular, is to reconcile our responsibility to the animal with our responsibility to people. If people would adhere to these guidelines, this challenge could be met successfully," Richard Bryant concludes.

Farewell to a Friend

All people fortunate enough to share their lives with a companion animal have two major things in common—a deep appreciation of the joys of pet ownership, and the bittersweet knowledge that one day they will lose their beloved friend.

Few pets outlast their owners. Most die eventually of sickness, old age or accidental causes; others are lost or stolen. When a human friend or relative dies, people are usually quick to rally to the support of those who are grieving. When an animal dies, however, sympathy and true understanding are usually far harder to find.

"Those who lose a pet may receive ridicule for overreacting or for being foolishly emotional and expressing grief over the death of an animal," writes *New York Times* reporter Jane E. Brody in an article titled "Goodby, friend." "Grief, however, is not reserved for the loss of friends or relatives. It is a natural response to the loss of any object to which a person held a strong emotional attachment," she explains. For children, and for elderly persons who may rely heavily on a pet's companionship, the loss is especially painful. Generally, the depth of attachment will determine the depth of grief. Symptoms such as anxiety, anger, apathy, loss of appetite, sleeplessness and crying bouts may last for weeks or months, depending on how well a person recognizes and deals with his or her grief.

To overcome these feelings and embark on the road to recovery, author Lynn Reeves, writing in *The Latham Letter*, offers the following advice. "There are four basic things people should know when dealing with a loss: 1) Know what to expect in the grief reactions and the stages of mourning. 2) Learn ways to cope with grief reactions and accept the length of time it takes to grieve. 3) Recognize emotions which hold people back from recovery, like abnormal grief reactions or fear of grieving. 4) Recognize signs of recovery."

Stages of Grief

The death of a pet causes a pet owner to respond emotionally in stages that are similar to those that occur when a human loved one dies, according to Marc A. Rosenberg, V.M.D., author of "Death of the Family Pet," a pamphlet published by the Alpo Pet Center. While he emphasizes that each individual is unique, and the pattern and order of grieving may vary, in general the stages are:

Illustration by Jonathan Banchick

First, Denial. Disbelief and denial at the initial news of a pet's sickness or imminent death are a common form of self-protection.

Second, Bargaining. While this reaction is not as common in the death of a pet as it is in the human grieving process, still it is not unusual for a person to promise never to scold a pet, or to take better care of it, if it recovers.

Third, Anger. Anger may be

The loss of a pet is especially painful for the elderly and for children.

obvious, expressed in hostile outbursts toward the veterinarian, for example. Or it can turn inward and be expressed as guilt.

Fourth, Grief. "This is the stage of true sadness," Dr. Rosenberg writes. "A lack of support prolongs the grief process."

Finally, Resolution and Recovery. "A person who experiences grief fully will recover faster than one who suppresses it," Lynn Reeves advises. Recovery is completed when the pain disappears, and only love and good memories remain.

Jane Brody passes along some tips for overcoming grief from Herbert A. Nieberg and Arlene Fischer, authors of "Pet Loss" (Harper & Row, 1982). "They suggest going over various events and visiting places associated with the animal to help in accepting the reality of the loss—looking at pictures, reminiscing about the good and bad times, noting the resemblance of the lost pet to other animals, and talking about how the pet enhanced one's life.

When an incurably ill or very old animal must be "put to sleep," guilt can sometimes prolong the grieving process. An honest evaluation of the animal's condition and the alternatives, as well as trusting and open communication with the veterinarian, can help alleviate these feelings. It is also important, most experts agree, for a person to have the opportunity to "say goodbye" to a pet, whether it be a last quiet evening at home or a visit to the clinic.

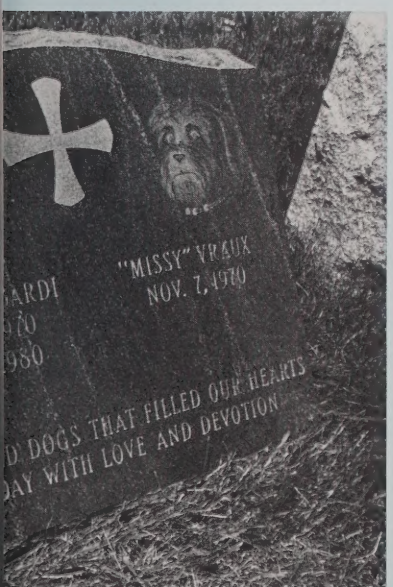
In coming to terms with the loss of a pet, it is helpful for many people to mark the conclusion of the relationship in an appropriate manner. For this reason, many choose a home burial service or burial in a pet cemetery, both of which provide the comfort of knowing the pet's final resting place. A family memorial service, or similar ceremony, can be especially helpful in assisting children to accept a loss.

Signs of Recovery

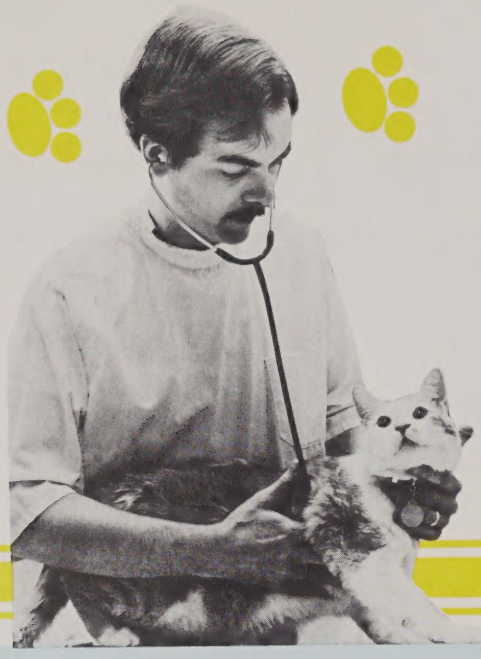
One of the most common mistakes people make when dealing with a bereaved pet owner is to tell them: "Don't worry, you can always get another dog." Time is needed to get over the loss, and people naturally resist the idea that their affections can be transferred so easily to another animal.

Veterinarian Eddie Garcia, D.V.M., summarizes his experience with pet loss in *The Latham Letter:* "Pets should not be replaced until a person has resolved the loss of a former pet, because the new animal—consciously or subconsciously—will not be given full acceptance. Occasionally, I will hear a bereaved person say, 'I'll never own another pet.' My response often is: 'I know there will never be another Gigi, but I think you can share your life with another pet. You have enough love to do that.' I also tell them that replacing a pet when the time is right is an affirmation of a positive relationship with the animal that died."

In fact, an interest in obtaining a new pet is a definite sign that grief and loss have been successfully resolved. Sympathy and support from friends, understanding on the part of a compassionate veterinarian, and an opportunity to express emotion without fear of ridicule will help hasten this process.



Markers at the League's Pine Ridge Cemetery for Animals tell a story of devotion and lasting memories.



A Veterinary Update

by Edward A. Leonard, D.V.M.

Canine Heartworm Disease: Is Your Dog Protected?

Adult heartworms reproduce in the heart and pulmonary arteries of infected dogs and then the larvae (young worms) circulate in the bloodstream. Mosquitoes get the larvae when they bite an infected dog and then the larvae develop into an infective stage while living in the mosquito for ten to thirty days. These infective larvae penetrate the skin of a dog through a wound created by a mosquito bite. The larvae then migrate to the heart of the dog and the cycle begins again. The lifespan of the heartworm is three to five years during which time they grow to lengths of twelve to thirty centimeters. If left untreated, this disease is fatal.

Canine heartworm disease is found in almost every state of the United States. In order to protect your dog against the disease, you must first have it tested to rule out the possibility that it may already be infected. The test is performed by a veterinarian through the use of a blood test which determines the presence of larvae in the bloostream. If the blood test is "negative," you can begin a program of prevention that should be continued from the beginning of the mosquito season up to two months after the last bite. The preventative medication comes in pill or liquid form and is given daily or monthly depending on the medication you and your veterinarian choose to use. Ivermectin, the newest product available for the prevention of heartworm disease, requires a dosage of one pill every thirty days during the mosquito season described above. It is hoped that the added convenience of once a month dosages, as opposed to daily dosage requirements, will encourage more people to protect their dogs. It would be best to discuss the type of medication that best suits you and your dog with a veterinarian. The League clinic in Boston performs heartworm disease testing and dispenses the preventative medication. If you would like an appointment, please feel free to call at 426-9176.

In the event that your dog were to test "positive" for heartworm disease, the condition *can* be treated; however, treatment is expensive, time consuming, and poses health threats to your dog. There is no question that prevention of heartworm disease is in the best interest of you and your dog.

Feline Leukemia Virus

After years of study, help has arrived for cat owners who want to protect their pets from one of the most feared and misunderstood diseases to affect cat populations—feline leukemia (FeLV) infection. The first federally-approved vaccine is now available.

Leukemia is only one among many symptoms of the FeLV infection. Persistent FeLV infection can lead to other types of blood cell cancer or lymphosarcoma, a tumor which can affect almost any tissue or organ, or to a host of associated diseases which are usually equally fatal in outcome. According to Edward A. Leonard, D.V.M., director of veterinary medicine at the League, "Though the average life span with the disease is three years, I have seen diseased aimals live as long as six years with relatively minor problems. The important thing is that infected cats must be kept indoors, isolated, and protected against other infections." There is no evidence that humans can be affected by this virus, but it is highly contagious among cat populations.

It is recommended that cats be tested for the infection *before* being vaccinated, since the vaccination is of no known value to cats with existing infection. Vaccination requires a series of three shots, the first two of which are given at two to three weeks apart, when the cat is nine weeks of age or older, with a booster shot given two to four months later. After that a single dose per year is recommended. The cost of the initial immunization series can range from $60 to $120.

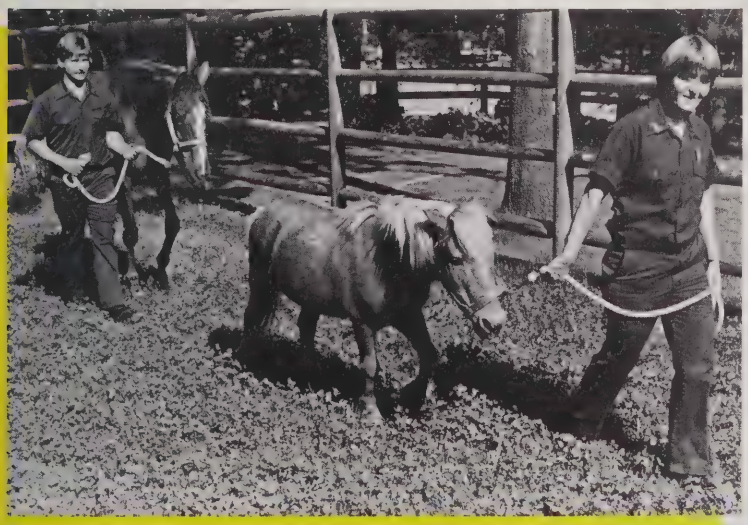
Fair Nashua surveys her new home.

A major renovation effort conducted over the past nine months has restored the colonial barn at the League's Pine Ridge Animal Center in Dedham to its originally intended purpose—a home for horses and other large animals in need of care and shelter.

The first occupants—a horse, two ponies and a donkey—moved in mid-June into the historic structure which was purchased by the League in 1907, and operated as a rest home for horses in the early part of this century by League founder Anna Harris Smith.

A New Home for Large Animals

Assistant shelter manager Helen Henderson grooms and cares for barn residents.



Alan Cunningham, shelter manager, and Helen Henderson lead animals from new outdoor paddock areas.

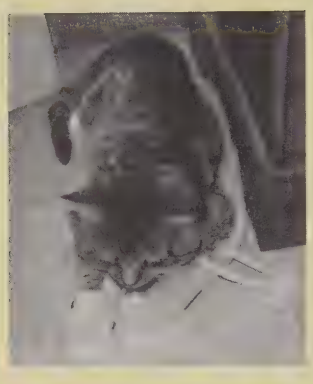
Though accurate county records of the building do not exist prior to 1830, a report by American Landmarks, Inc., consultants on historic properties, concluded that the foundation is probably 17th-century in origin. According to Richard Babcock, the barn restoration expert in charge of the project, the techniques used in the original framing of the structure were typical of early 18th-century barn construction.

Mr. Babcock used red oak to reconstruct the frame to a 17th- to early 18th-century appearance, with cedar shingles on the exterior and a distinctive cupola topping off the structure. Inside, four large box stalls and four smaller stalls provide flexible living quarters for a variety of animals.

The need for such a shelter has become increasingly evident over the years as the League's involvement in animal cruelty cases dealing with large animals has escalated. The donkey and two ponies presently housed in the barn are part of a major cruelty case which is currently in litigation. The League will be responsible for the care of these animals until the case is concluded in court. The horse, a fourteen-year-old brown mare named "Fair Nashua," is a thoroughbred of distinguished lineage, the granddaughter of the famed racehorse "Nashua," and great granddaughter of "Nasrullah," a racehorse once owned by the Aga Khan. The League has had custody of "Fair Nashua" since 1985 when the horse was rescued and nursed back to health after being found in a Boston stable, severely malnourished and mistreated.

Arthur G. Slade, League president, has announced that the League received a major gift toward the barn restoration from the Richard B. Carter Trust. "We are deeply appreciative of this generous gift in the amount of $32,000 made under the will of the late Richard B. Carter of Newton, who was president of Carter Ink Company. A plaque honoring Mr. Carter will be installed in the barn later this year," he said. "Contributions toward the cost of this project are most welcome," he noted, adding that there will be additional named gift opportunities available.

PETS IN THE PICTURE



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1 "I thought you'd enjoy his latest caper," writes Mrs. Elsie Hunt of Hyannis, who sent in this photo of her cat "Tommy," "wearing Mama's shoes."

2 Patricia Walsh of Hingham shares this picture of "Danny," adopted from the League in January. "At that time he weighed all of 2¾ pounds and could barely walk—today he is a strapping 20 pounds and the most loving, good-natured animal," she writes. "I was especially pleased when I visited the South End facility. It was so very clean and all the animals were well fed and well taken care of. It did my heart good to see the compassion with which the volunteers and staff handled the animals."

3 "Minky" was adopted from the League by Ethyl L. Shattuck of Cambridge in 1982. "Now he is six, and the most loving and beautiful cat I have ever had—a real pet," she writes. "I am enclosing a picture of him so you can see how beautiful he is!"

4 "Ginger" is the latest addition to the Rees family of Boston. A long-haired orange and white cat adopted in February, 1987 at the age of 1½, "she is lovable, jumps on my lap and follows me around," Bertha Rees writes. "Her favorite place is the windowsill looking at the birds and talking to them."

5 "'Mittens' thanks you for a good home," according to Mildred Ruhmpohl of Boston's South End, who adopted her when she was three months old. "She is now six years old, and very pretty."

RABIES CLINIC

Dogs have their day at the annual rabies clinic and dog licensing program held at the League in May, in conjunction with Boston's Animal Control Unit.

NEWSFRONT
ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

SALEM SHELTER HOSTS OPEN HOUSE

During "Be Kind to Animals Week" from May 3 to 9, the Salem Animal Rescue League held a week-long open house that sponsored such activities as grooming demonstrations, tours of the facility, as well as a visit by a local wild animal expert. In addition to these activities, local children were encouraged to submit original artwork that contained a message in keeping with the spirit of "Be Kind to Animals Week." More than seventy entries were received by the shelter. First, Second, and Third Prize ribbons were awarded in three different age groups. "The pictures and drawings were wonderful and everyone enjoyed viewing them while on display at the Shelter," said Salem ARL manager Mary Brasier (below, left).

CRUELTY CASE RESOLVED

On June 10, 1987, Steven F. Tolliver of Somerville was convicted of cruelty to animals and two additional charges.

Mr. Tolliver was arrested by Somerville Police on January 18, 1987, after he shot and killed his dog at his home. The dog was a female German Shepherd, one of three pets owned by Tolliver. The surviving pets are a fourteen-month-old male German Shepherd and a two-year-old male domestic short-haired cat. The League first became involved in the Tolliver case on the evening of January 18 when they received an emergency call from the Somerville Police Department requesting that a League ambulance pick up the dead shepherd dog. The League took the two surviving pets (the dog and cat) into protective custody and pursued the prosecution of the case to its conclusion. Mr. Tolliver was found guilty of cruelty to animals, possession of a firearm without a permit, and discharging a firearm within city limits. He was sentenced to two, one-year prison terms. Both sentences were suspended and reduced to two years on probation during which time Mr. Tolliver cannot own any animal(s). The League was awarded permanent custody of the surviving pets and will make them available for adoption to new homes.

EAGLE-EYED SPOTTERS CONDUCT STATEWIDE SURVEY

A definite upward trend in the number of eagles in the Commonwealth has been reported by participants in the 1987 Eagle Survey conducted by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. During the eighth annual census on January 9th, seventeen teams spotted a total of 45 eagles—43 bald eagles and two golden eagles. Most of the birds were seen in the Quabbin Reservoir area, according to Eagle Restoration Project Leader Jack Swedberg. Other areas included the Merrimack River, the Connecticut River, Assawonpsett Pond in Lakeville, Putnamville Reservoir, and Wellfleet Bay.

LEAGUE STAFF TRAINS TO PLACE HEARING DOGS

On May 6, 1987 staff from all League branches attended a training session hosted by Red Acre Farm Hearing Dog Center in Stowe, MA. The purpose of the day-long session was to familiarize League shelter staff with the techniques used in choosing potential hearing dogs. Red Acre Farm has previously been mentioned in *Our Fourfooted Friends* in recognition of their work providing hearing impaired people with shelter animals that have been painstakingly trained to "respond to vital sounds of living." With the knowledge obtained at the training session, League staff will take a more active role in placing "special" dogs with the Red Acre program. League staff can prescreen a potential hearing dog before calling in a Red Acre Farm trainer to make the final decision. Dogs with hearing dog potential that might have been missed, in between visits from Red Acre staff, can be given a chance by an alert staff member in any one of the four League shelters.

GERMAN CAT LEAPS OVER THE WALL

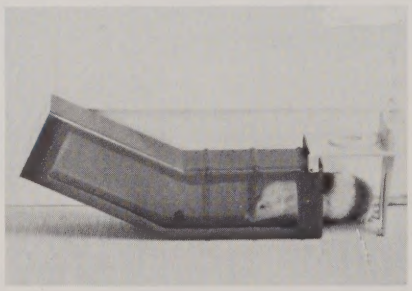
A black and white tomcat is back in his West Berlin home after inadvertently spending a two-week sojourn behind the Iron Curtain, according to a recent item in the *Boston Globe*. "Putzi" enjoyed taking strolls along the Berlin Wall, which bordered on his owner's garden, so when he disappeared one day the family suspected that he had fallen over to the other side. Two weeks later they heard loud meowing coming from the Communist side. When the cat's owner, identified only as Paul W., attempted to use a ladder to retrieve the cat, he was threatened off by border guards with machine guns. So he waited until after dark and had his children make a racket some distance from the house to distract the border guards while he bored a small hole in the wall. "Putzi," who was skin and bones by this time, squeezed through the hole back to freedom in the west.

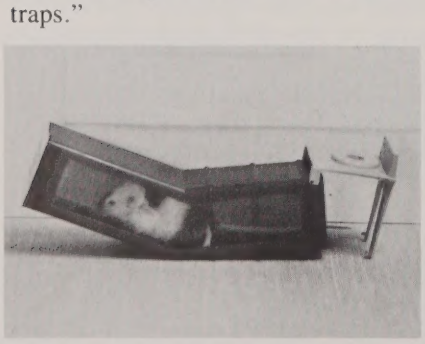
LEAGUE CANINES ENJOY GIFT FROM KAL-KAN

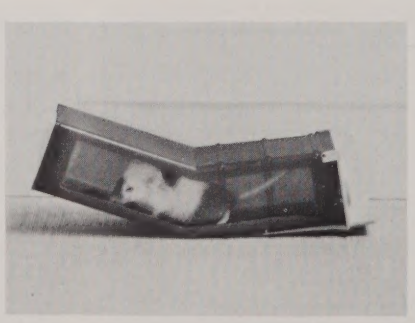
The League would like to express its gratitude to the Kal-Kan Company for their generous donation of Kal-Kan Mealtime Dry Dogfood. The company recently presented the League with 85 ten-pound bags of food for the enjoyment of our shelter guests.

A BETTER MOUSETRAP?

From California comes news of a new humane mousetrap which traps mice painlessly without the use of springs or poisons, allowing humane release of the animal outdoors. The manufacturer, Trap Ease, America, bills their product as "The Big Cheese of Mousetraps."







FREE BROCHURE FOR GRIEVING PET OWNERS

A new booklet has been published to help pet owners faced with the loss of a beloved animal, cope with the stages of grief and learn to say a proper goodbye. Titled "Death of the Family Pet," the booklet is available free of charge by sending a stamped, self-addressed, business-size envelope to Alpo Pet Center, Dept. P, P.O. Box 2187, Allentown, PA 18001.

"As you know, Mrs. Smith, your late husband was quite an animal lover."

The League continues to rely on the generosity of its friends to meet the ever-expanding needs of our animal population. The cruel realism of inflation makes the League's task in providing needed services more difficult than ever, but with continued support, the challenge can and will be met.

In making a bequest to the League in your Will, please remember that the corporate title of our society is **"Animal Rescue League of Boston,"** that is was incorporated in 1899, and has no connection with any other similar society.

Form of Bequest

I give to the Animal Rescue League of Boston the sum of _____ dollars.

Animal Rescue League of Boston
10 Chandler Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

If you're looking for a loyal, loving, uncomplaining and eager-to-please companion, just visit our nearest adoption shelter. You'll find lots of friendly dogs, cats, kittens and puppies ready to offer a lifetime of devotion in return for your care and affection. Call for information and shelter hours.

Boston
10 Chandler St.
(corner of Arlington & Tremont Sts.)
426-9170

E. Brewster
Route 6A
255-1030

Dedham
238 Pine St.
326-0729

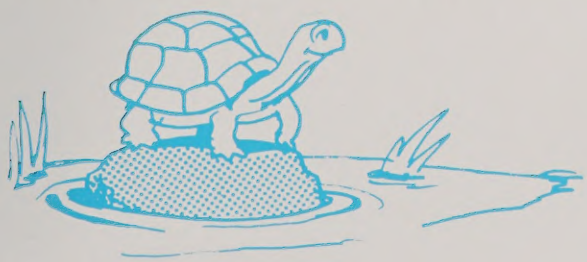
Salem
378 Highland Ave.
744-7910

Animal Rescue League of Boston

A Non-Profit Humane Society Helping Animals Since 1899.

Moving?

Please allow two months for us to correct our mailing list.



Please let us know if you're planning to move so we can be sure that you receive OUR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS without interruption.

Old Address:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

(please print or attach mailing label)

New Address:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

T-Shirts and Sweatshirts for Youngsters and Adults

T-Shirts—Red with white lettering

Children's Sizes:
X-Small (2–4) Small (6–8) Medium (10–12) Large (14–16)
$7.50

Adult Sizes:
Small (34–36) Medium (38–40) Large (42–44)
X-Large (46–48)
$8.50

Sweatshirts—Maroon with white lettering

Children's Sizes:
X-Small (2–4) Small (6–8) Medium (10–12) Large (14–16)
$10.50

Adult Sizes:
Small (34–36) Medium (38–40) Large (42–44)
X-Large (46–48)
$11.50

Order Form:

T-Shirts: Children's size(s) _____ at **$7.50** each
Adult size(s) _____ at **$8.50** each

Sweatshirts: Children's size(s) _____ at **$10.50** each
Adult size(s) _____ at **$11.50** each

Costs include postage and packaging.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is my check in the total amount of _____, *made payable to the Animal Rescue League of Boston.*

Mail to:
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265
Boston, MA 02117

Our Foorfooted Friends (US ISSN 0030-6851)
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117